

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

Here, the first concave portion 12 of the protruding portion 11 of the hood main body 10a is set as follows. That is, as shown in FIG. 4, an observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a of the endoscope displayed in the monitor 13 of the endoscopic apparatus is formed into a substantially rectangular shape. This observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a has a length L2 in a diagonal direction larger than a length L1 in an opposite side direction. Here, a visual field angle of the object lens 9 of the endoscope has the following relationship. As shown in FIG. 1, assuming that a visual field angle in a direction corresponding to the length L1 in the opposite side direction of the observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a is A1 and a visual field angle corresponding to the length L2 in the diagonal direction of the observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a is A2, A2 is larger than A1. Further, when the protrusion length of the protruding portion 11 of the endoscopic hood 10 is formed to be fixed over the entire circumferential direction in accordance with the visual field angle A1, there occurs so-called visual field vignetting which is a phenomenon where the visual field of the object lens 9 of the endoscope is cut off by the end portion of the protruding portion 11 of the endoscopic hood 10 around the visual field angle A2 corresponding to the length L2 in the diagonal direction of the observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a.

Therefore, in the hood main body 10a of this embodiment, a circumferential wall part is notched at a position of the visual field angle A2 in a direction corresponding to the length L2 in the diagonal direction of the observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a at the end portion of the protruding portion 11. As a result, the first concave portion 12 is formed at a part in the circumferential direction (diagonal direction of the observation image ~~[[14]]~~ 14a) of the hood main body 10a in order to avoid the so-called visual field vignetting that the visual field of the endoscope is cut off by the end portion of the protruding portion 11.